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(54) Title: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR USE IN PREPARING AN AQUEOUS MAGNESIUM BICARBONATE SOLUTION

(57) **Abstract:** A method and an apparatus for preparing a substantially clear aqueous solution containing magnesium bicarbonate are disclosed. One method of preparing a substantially clear aqueous solution containing magnesium bicarbonate, includes contacting, with species resulting from the dissolution of carbon dioxide in water, an aqueous suspension of magnesium carbonate, at suitable conditions of pressure and temperature, so as to obtain an aqueous solution of magnesium bicarbonate and controlling the pH of the said solution so that, after reaction of the said species with the magnesium carbonate, the final pH falls within a range of from about 8.0 to about 8.8. One apparatus suitable for preparing an aqueous solution of magnesium bicarbonate, comprises means for contacting, with species resulting from the dissolution of carbon dioxide in water, a suspension of powdered magnesium carbonate in water so as to form an aqueous solution of magnesium bicarbonate and means for controlling the pH of the solution between about 7 and about 9 by adjusting the amount of at least one of the said species and said powdered magnesium carbonate that is contacted with the other.